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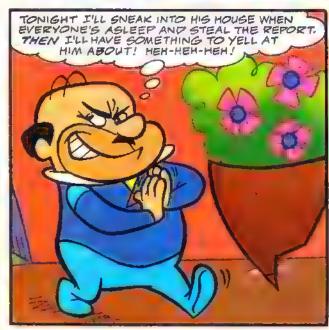




















































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# LETTER

Okay! NOW we're getting some mail! The Flintstones and The Jetsons (5 letters per month) still isn't getting as much mail as, say, Scooby-Doo (81 letters per month), but we like to think that we make up in quality what we lack in mere quantity. Like

## Susan Carvalho Visalia, CA

Dear Editor Bronwyn,

How exciting it is each month to find another issue of the new DC Comics' The Flintstones and The Jetsons! Of course, as a dedicated, enthusiastic Fred Flintstone fan I like the Flintstone features above all else!

I LOVE FRED. And I've loved Fred since I was a little girl. I enjoyed your article in issue #4 about Glen Hanson and his childhood enjoyment of The Flintstones. He's truly blessed that he is living his dream of someday drawing them professionally; and what a terrific bunch of characters to draw also!

I congratulate you all on the fine quality and hard work which is dedicated to each issue. I love them all. Monthly I purchase 2 copies: one for my collection (which contains over 750 items now) and one for my personal pleasure of reading and rereading and rereading.

Thank you Editor
Bronwyn and Glen Hanson
for extending the pleasure of
these characters for the
"younger" generation to
enjoy as I once did (and DO)
enjoy.

Susan enclosed an article from the Visalia Times-Delta newspaper describing some of the 750 Fred Flintstone items in her collection. When asked about her daughter's obsession, Susan's mom said, "I collect butter dishes. What difference is there between a butter dish and Fred Flintstone?" (She's

obviously a very philosophical woman.) So it's really an honor to receive such high praise from someone who's gotta be the Number One Fred Flintstone Fan in the whole world—Thanks, Susan!

## Cecil Melvin Fairfax, VA

Dear Editor.

I have a question concerning The Flintstones cartoon series. Who repairs Fred's car roof after Dino pokes his head through it at the beginning of each show? I'm also curious about where Yogi Bear keeps all the empty picnic baskets.

Curiously enough, Cecil, you've answered your own question. Naturally, Yogi recycles all his empty pic-anic baskets; they're hauled to a central facility where they're chipped, pulped, and made into an amazing Stone Age synthetic papyrus that's used to repair car canopies in Bedrock.

#### April Washburn Lebanon, KY

Dear Editor,

I recently bought Flintstones and Jetsons #4, and I found it great! I've been wondering what the Great Gazoo had been up to, and the Flintstones' remote control was kind of cool. However, it would seem to me that Pebbles and/or Bamm Bamm would've had some kind of reaction to their dads' and moms' switch. I mean, couldn't they tell? Also, I'd like to see more of Bedrock itself, and maybe a centerfold map (with ads on the outside pages) of Bedrock because I've always wondered what was where. The cartoon confuses me a lot because nearly all the buildings look alike, especially in rare nighttime views of the city. The Jetsons story was interesting but I'd like for Orbitty, the

alien pet, to get involved. I think he's cute, and I miss him. One thing I'm confused on is the Specely Sprocket official logo. Every episodehasitadifferentstyle,ltseems.l'm also confused on the exact location of Cogs wellCods.Sometimes the two factories are next door, other times separated by "blocks" if notmiles. However, onequestion that 'sneverbeen answeredishowandwhyGeorgeJetsongutthejo btostartwith. #thatwaseverexplained in the origin alseries, it's been solong l'veforgotten. Iwasbornin 1964, soyoghavesomeidesomhowmuchimighthevepithedu phromerumofouthweies stanetimeoranother. Speaking offic te, how direct lintstone gethis and why was techosen for it? id HunepisodershwaFredtelltaMr Slateintohiring Barnevill ragumway), butfred annologicame wasseverapiainedine rythati doorgaromataba Sady as

Thanks for your letter, April. Sorry we had to edit your letter for space, and to leave room to let Marie and Poppa Moreno of Sacto, CA know that their dad, who's stationed with the military in Texas, loves them very much.

Everybody else—WRITE TO US FOR NEXT MONTH, OKAY? (And you know that if you send us drawings, we might print them, right?)

## NEXT ISSUE:

Does Rosey, the Jetson's everhelpfuł robot, really revolt and try to overthrow her human masters—or has she secretly switched places with the evil robot Molly Alloy? Read "I, Rosey" in the April issue of The Flintstones and The Jetsons and find out!

#### THIS MONTH'S COVER

is another tour de force pencilled, inked, and colored by birthday boy Glen Hanson.





SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: DC COMICS . 1700 BROADWAY . NEW YORK, NY 10019

# Martial Arts

# (part one)

# How did Betty learn to kick like that?

She and Wilma must have been studying martial arts.

The word "martial" comes from the name of Mars, who was the god of war in ancient Roman mythology. So the term martial arts means the skills you learn for combat or fighting wars. Nowadays, when people talk about martial arts they mean special Asian styles of fighting, with or without weapons. People learn martial arts for self-defense, for sports competitions, or just for funbut not really for combat. Thousands of years ago, though, people needed fighting skills to hunt, to protect themselves, and just to stay alive.

Historians think that modern Asian martial arts began in India about 2500 years ago when **Buddhist monks developed** unarmed fighting skills to defend themselves. Eventually this style of hand-to-hand combat spread to other monks in northern China called Shaolin **Buddhist monks.** (That's pronounced "shah-oh-LIHN.") The Shaolin monks-and nunsdeveloped this early martial art into the many forms that are generally known as KUNG TU. Some forms of martial arts spread to Japan, where they were developed in different ways by practitioners of another branch of Buddhism called Zen

and by warriors called Samurai ("SAM-uh-rye"). Still another branch of martial arts was practiced in the country that later became Korea. Korean-type fighting skills were practiced by young men who were picked to become military leaders, and not by monks or nuns.

Eventually, Asian fighting skills developed and spread all over the world. Today there are hundreds of different types of martial arts.

There are special forms of martial arts in almost every Asian country-not just China. Japan, and Korea, but also Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Okinawa. In some styles-called "percussive" martial artsthe fighters strike with their hands, feet, elbows, knees, or even their heads. Kung fu, karate, and tae kwon do ("TY kwahn DOH") are percussive. In other forms—called "nonpercussive" martial arts-people throw their opponents, or grab and hold them without hitting or kicking. Judo is one example of nonpercussive martial arts.

Judo, tae kwon do, aikido, kendo, kyudo, iaido, juken-do, hwarangdo, bando—Why do so many martial arts have "do" in their names?

Because in the Japanese language, the syllable "do" means "the way to enlightenment." The Zen **Buddhists** who developed some Japanese martial arts practiced them as part of their religious beliefs. They found that as they improved their physical skills they also developed good character traits like selfdiscipline. People who practice this way try to avoid fights, and use their martial arts skills against others only as a last resort.

But in other types of Japanese martial arts the actual fighting is more important. These are the styles that are based on the skills of the Samurai warriors. Jujitsu and ninjitsu are examples of these types. Ninjitsu is especially focused on combat. Students-called ninjas-train in the use of commando techniques, disguises, espionage, poisons, bombs, night movements, surprise tactics, hand-to-hand combat, and special weapons. The rulers of Japan banned ninjitsu in the 1600s.

but the ninjas preserved it and practiced it secretly. Today students of ninjitsu study it as just a traditional martial art.

